

REMARKS

Claims 1-68 are pending in the application. Claims 69-70 have been newly presented herein and claims 22-24, 26, 56-58, and 60 have been canceled.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C §103

Claims 1-2, 4-11, 13, 19-22, 24-26, 30-35, 37-43, 45, 51-56, 58-60 and 65-68 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE Pat. No. 19747745 to Allinger in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,929,848 to Albuquerk et al. In particular, the Examiner finds that Allinger discloses all limitations of claim 1, with the exception of contact-data input means for receiving contact data, and contact-data providing means located at the local entity for making available to a user near the local entity or to the user equipment carried by that user, contact data identifying a voice service associated with the entity but separately hosted. The Examiner further finds that Albuquerk teaches a user device having contact-data input means for receiving contact data (noting that PID 101 receives identification signal 109 emitted from identification device 107 located near the exhibit in Fig. 1), and also a contact-data providing means located at the local entity for making available to a user near the local entity or to the user equipment carried by that user (noting that identification device 107 located near the exhibit emits identification signal for the user device), and that contact data identifies a voice service associated with the entity but separately hosted (citing to col. 9, ll. 11-31). The Examiner opines that because Allinger and Albuquerk are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor, it would have been obvious to the skilled person to modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Albuquerk to provide appropriate information about that particular exhibit to the user. The Examiner makes a similar rejection regarding claim 34.

Applicants have reviewed the two references with care, paying particular attention to the passages and figures cited to by the Examiner, and are compelled to disagree with the Examiner's understanding of these references. However, in the interest of moving this application to issue, Applicants have incorporated a feature from dependent claims 26 and 60 into claims 1 and 34, respectively, to more clearly distinguish the claimed invention over the cited art. In particular, claim 1 now further recites controllable functionality associated with the local entity and a short-range-communications arrangement comprising complimentary elements

at the local entity and in the user equipment for establishing a short range wireless link between the user equipment and said controllable functionality, the user equipment being arranged to receive control data from the voice service arrangement in the course of the latter acting as a voice proxy for the local entity, and to pass on the control data via said short-range wireless link to said controllable functionality whereby to enable this functionality to be controlled by the voice service arrangement in coordination with said voice output. Claim 34 has been similarly amended.

In the Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 26 and 60, finding that Albuquerk discloses these limitations at col. 8, ll. 1-46 or Fig. 1. Applicants respectfully submit that this is not in fact the case. Albuquerk merely discloses an object identification device 107 that sends a signal identifying an object (or a hall in the embodiment mentioned at col. 8, ll. 31-39) to a user-carried device 101. The object identification device is shown in more detail in Fig. 6, and is very clearly only a transmission device that is not capable of receiving control data from the user-carried device. Furthermore, there is no mention whatsoever of a controllable functionality whose operation can be coordinated with the voice output of the voice service, as per the amended claims. Thus, there is also no mention of control data being passed to such a functionality at an exhibit. Applicants respectfully remind the Examiner of the requirements posited by MPEP 2143.03 that “[t]o establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art. *In re Wilson*, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970).” (emphasis added) The Examiner has not made, and indeed cannot make, a *prima facie* showing that the combination of Allinger and Albuquerk disclose all elements of amended claim 1 and 34. Applicants therefore submit that claims 1 and 34 are allowable and respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and pass these claims to issue.

Claims 2, 4-11, 13, 19-22, 24-26, 30-33, 35, 37-43, 45, 51-56, 58-60 and 65-68 depend from claim 1 or 34. “If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious.” *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Therefore, in light of the above discussion of claims 1 and 34, Applicants submit that

claims 2, 4-11, 13, 19-22, 24-26, 30-33, 35, 37-43, 45, 51-56, 58-60 and 65-68 are also allowable.

Claims 12, 14-18, 44, and 46-50 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Allinger and Albuquerk and further in view of WO 00/30329 to Scott. Claims 12, 14-18, 44, and 46-50 depend from claim 1 or 34. Therefore, in light of the above discussion of claims 1 and 34, Applicants submit that claims 12, 14-18, 44, and 46-50 are also allowable.

Claims 3 and 46 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Allinger and Albuquerk and further in view of U.S. 6,085,148 to Jamison. Claims 3 and 46 depend from claim 1 or 34. Therefore, in light of the above discussion of claims 1 and 34, Applicants submit that claims 3 and 46 are also allowable.

Claims 23 and 57 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Allinger and Albuquerk and further in view of U.S. 6,144,991 to England. Claims 23 and 57 depend from claim 1 or 34. Therefore, in light of the above discussion of claims 1 and 34, Applicants submit that claims 23 and 57 are also allowable.

Claims 27, 29, 61-62 and 64 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Allinger and U.S. 5,907,351 to Chen. Claims 27, 29, 61-62 and 64 depend from claim 1 or 34. Therefore, in light of the above discussion of claims 1 and 34, Applicants submit that claims 27, 29, 61-62 and 64 are also allowable.

Claims 28 and 63 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Allinger and Albuquerk and further in view of Chen and further in view of U.S. 6,067,095 to Danieli. Claims 28 and 63 depend from claim 1 or 34. Therefore, in light of the above discussion of claims 1 and 34, Applicants submit that claims 28 and 63 are also allowable.

Applicants submit new claims 69 and 70 herein. These claims are directed to originally disclosed subject matter. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully urge the Examiner to pass this case to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-2025. In particular, if this response is not timely

filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 08-2025.

A Change of Correspondence Address form is enclosed herewith. Kindly note the new docket number.

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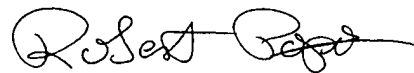


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(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



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